

Oracle State Park  
Center for Environmental Education  
OPEN WEEKENDS YEAR-ROUND  
SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS 8AM-5PM

WEEKEND CALENDAR:  
[AZStateParks.com/Parks/ORAC](http://AZStateParks.com/Parks/ORAC)  
For reservations, call (520) 896-2425



Oracle State Park is open to the public for day-use on a limited basis: Saturdays and Sundays only from 8am-5pm. Weekdays, the park offers school programs and facility rental by reservation. The American Avenue trailhead parking lot is open seven days a week to access the National Scenic Arizona Trail, and to accommodate use by night-time stargazers.

Oracle State Park is an International Dark Sky Park, designated in 2014 by the International Dark Sky Association. The park is also a 4,000 acre wildlife refuge with over 15 miles of maintained trails for use by hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians.

#### ONGOING WEEKENDS:

**Self-guided tours of the historic Kannally Ranch House:** Visit the park office/gift shop and take a self-guided tour through the multi-level Kannally family home. The Mediterranean-Revival Style ranch house built 1929-1933, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Guided Tour of the historic Kannally Ranch House begins at 11am every Saturday and Sunday**, for the drop-in public. 45-minute duration. Alternate times may be added by reservation.

#### Lee Kannally paintings exhibit continues

An exhibit of impressionist-style paintings by self-taught cowboy artist, Lee Kannally, is on display at the Kannally Ranch House. Nearly 30 oils are included in the exhibit, thanks to the **Oracle Historical Society** and **Friends of Oracle State Park**.

#### Wildlife Slide Show

See what's showing up at waterhole cameras in the park.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Sunday, February 14: Bear Necessities, 11:30am** with interpretive docent, Richard Boyer, in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House. Would you like to know more about the black bear of Arizona? Then this is the program for you. Information about bears, an appearance from the "Everywhere Bear," and information about safety around Bears will be presented in this inter-active 30 to 40 minute program. You might even win a prize for your knowledge about the black bear! Free with park admission; reservation suggested.

**Wednesday, February 17: Volunteer Training begins, 9am-Noon.** Trail guides are needed to lead environmental education programs for visiting school groups. Learn the Oracle Adventure Program for grades 1-3 and the Oracle Odyssey Program for grades 4-6. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to share nature with kids and ability to walk one-mile of trail. **Training continues 9am-Noon February 17, 24, March 2 and 9.** Classes will cover the two programs, interpretive techniques and learning styles, introduction to plants, wildlife and geology of the park, and safety protocol on the trail. For more information and to sign up for the classes, call the park office at (520) 896-2425 or email Jennifer Rinio at: [jrinio@azstateparks.gov](mailto:jrinio@azstateparks.gov)

**Saturday, February 20: Music in the Park, 2pm-4pm.** Enjoy live music at the Kannally Ranch House, featuring new local band "Skylsland" playing an Americana mix. Weather will help determine whether the music takes place inside the living room or outside on the patio. Free with park admission, thanks to **Friends of Oracle State Park**.

**Sunday, February 21: Guided Mountain Bike Ride. Begins at 1pm.** Approximate 6 mile loop on terrain including washes and Arizona Trail. All levels welcome. Please call for a reservation. Free with park entrance fee.

**Wednesday, February 24: Volunteer Training continues, 9am-Noon.** Learn to be a trail guide for the Oracle Adventure Program, an environmental education program designed for grades 1-3. Reservation required.

**Saturday, February 27: Arizona Trail Guided Hike. Begins at 10am.** Join a Ranger-Led Nature Hike for approximately six miles covering the Arizona Trail north to south through the park. Bring lunch and water. Please call for a reservation. Meet at the Kannally Ranch House. Duration four hours including shuttle time. Free with park admission.

**Sunday, February 28: "Meet the Neighbors", begins at 12pm** in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House. Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum Program about desert wildlife. Space is limited; reservation required. Free with park admission, thanks to funding by **Friends of Oracle State Park**.

**Wednesday, March 2: Volunteer Training** continues, **9am-Noon**. Learn to be a trail guide for the Oracle Odyssey Program, an environmental education program designed for grades 4-6. Help park rangers offer field trip opportunities to visiting school groups. Reservation required.

**Saturday, March 5: Star Party Special Event:** Activities through the day will include an Astrophotography Workshop from 3p-5p by reservation; also live music, kids' activities, guided tours and more. Oracle State Park continues the celebration as an International Dark Sky Park. Gates will remain open into the evening for Star-Viewing with Telescopes, and interpretation of night-sky objects by Tucson Amateur Astronomer's Association from 7p-9p. More details TBA.

**Sunday, March 6: Bighorn Basics, 12:30pm.** Join Arizona State Parks volunteer, Richard Boyer, as he presents "Bighorn Basics" at the Kannally Ranch House for a 35-minute talk to learn more about bighorn sheep. What are they? Where have they been? Where are they now? Many of the tools we use can be compared to the tools the Bighorn Sheep use to survive in mountainous areas of Arizona. For several years, Richard has presented this Bighorn Basics program at Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado where he recently retired as a seasonal National Park Service Ranger. Free with park admission. Reservation preferred.

**Wednesday, March 9: Volunteer Training, 9am-Noon.** An introduction to the plants, wildlife and geology of the park; also safety protocol on the trail. Reservation required.

**Saturday, March 12: Wedding Reservation at the Kannally Ranch House** in the afternoon may limit visitor access. This would be a great day to enjoy trails or alternative picnic sites following the regularly scheduled 11am Guided House Tour.

**Sunday, March 13: Mineralogy Program,** begins at **NOON** in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House. Join local mineralogist, Wolfgang Mueller, for a talk featuring rocks associated with regional mining operations and lapidary uses. Reservation suggested, free with park admission.

**Saturday, March 19: Guided Hike: Arizona Trail Loop. Begins at 8am for approximately 6 miles.** Meet at Kannally Ranch House parking lot. Hike the Wildlife Corridor Trail, National Scenic Arizona Trail to Windmill, and return via the Manzanita Trail. A reservation is required -- please contact Volunteer Guide, Gaston Meloche, at [VHC.Gaston@gmail.com](mailto:VHC.Gaston@gmail.com) OR call to register at (520) 638-5404 by 4pm the day before the hike. For park directions, call the park office at: (520) 896-2425. The fee is \$7 per vehicle paid at the entrance gate or park office.

**Saturday, March 26: "Wildlife in the Santa Catalina Mountains".** Presentation by Sky Island Alliance begins at 1pm. Please call for a reservation. Free with park admission.

**Sunday, March 27: Tohono O'odham Basket-weaving Demonstration.** Celebrate March as Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Awareness Month. Oracle provides traditional bear-grass gathering grounds for people of the lower desert. Elizabeth of the Tohono O'odham Nation will be on hand with a weaving project to show technique, beginning at 1pm on the ranch house patio. Free with park admission, thanks to support by **Friends of Oracle State Park**.